



**Transportation Technical Committee  
MINUTES  
Friday, October 11, 2024  
8:30 AM**

The meeting was held at FCOG Sequoia Conference Room.

Ryan Burnett, City of Clovis  
Tatiana Partain, City of Clovis  
Jennifer Clark, City of Fresno  
Eric Rocha, City of Fowler  
Soo Ho Park, City of Fowler  
Mohammad Khorsand, County of Fresno  
Nick Paladino, Fresno Cycling Club  
Tina Sumner, Fresno Cycling Club  
Stan Bulla, City of San Joaquin  
Eric Rocha, City of Selma  
Marilu Morales, City of Reedley  
Christopher Xiong, Caltrans  
Robert Phipps, Fresno Council of Governments  
Moses Stites, Fresno County Rural Transit Agency

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Mr. Stites (FCRTA), Chair.

**I. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS**

- A. Executive Minutes of September 13, 2024 [APPROVE]**
- B. Transportation Development Act 2023-24 Surplus (Les Beshears) [INFORMATION]**
- C. Master Fund Transfer Agreement with Caltrans (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**
- D. FTA Award - FYs 2022 and 2023 5310 Vehicle Purchases and Transit Operating Service (Matthew Shimizu) [APPROVE]**
- E. FTA Award - FY23 5339(b) Selma Maintenance Facility Phase II Electric Charging Infrastructure (Matthew Shimizu) [APPROVE]**
- F. Final Quarter Obligational Authority Update (Jennifer Rodriguez) [INFORMATION]**
- G. FCOG 2025 Meeting Calendar (Denise Flores) [ACTION]**

- Mr. Jansons called for any items wishing to be pulled by members or the public.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned, and Ms. Sumner (Fresno Cycling Club) seconded to approve the consent agenda items A-G as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.  
Motion passed.**

**II. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Measure C Expenditure Plan Update – Rural Project List (Les Beshears) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** The Measure C 2007 ballot created urban and rural capital projects funds for major regional street and highway infrastructure projects. The Rural Tier I list included a project to connect Interstate 5 to State Route 180. Several alignments were investigated in a planning study conducted by FCOG and a 23-mile corridor was designated between Mendota and Interstate 5. The designated corridor includes an environmentally sensitive area where 14.5 miles of proposed roadway presently does not exist. A 2006 cost estimate of \$305 million has been carried in the Expenditure Plan since 2009, however anticipated revenues have never been enough to cover the estimated cost, so the project was programed in the last year of the measure resulting in a deficit that has averaged between \$200 – \$220 million. More recently a Project Study Report completed by Caltrans in 2023 indicates the project could cost \$316 million. The current measure expires in 2027 and while efforts are underway to extend it into the future there are no guarantees, therefore the project is clearly undeliverable within the existing life of the Measure without a significant contribution from some yet to be identified source. It is therefore appropriate to consider substituting \$75 – \$100 million in deliverable projects against the Rural residual balance. The enabling legislation allows FCOG to amend the Expenditure Plan to include new projects with an affirmative vote by both the FCOG and Transportation Authority boards, however it stipulates priority should be given to the intent of the projects promised to the voters in 2007, therefore the projects should;

- Be on or related to projects on the Tier I and Tier II list approved by the voters in 2007
- Facilitate regional connectivity to Interstate 5

Staff has conferred with Caltrans to identify four projects meeting these criteria.

- Passing Lane on State Route 33 between Mendota and Firebaugh -\$16 million
- Passing Lane on State Route 180 between Kerman and Mendota – \$16 million
- Passing Lane on State Route 198 between Kings County Line and Interstate 5 – \$9 million
- Widen State Route 145 North of Whitesbridge connecting to State Route 180 – \$5 million

FCOG staff met with the Transportation Authority staff, Caltrans, and the rural Westside Mayors to discuss the appropriateness of swapping these projects out with the State Route 180/Interstate 5 project. Various alternatives were discussed including:

- Improvements to Manning Avenue and State Route 145 between San Joaquin and Kerman.
- A Round-bout to address a safety issue at State Route 33 and Manning Avenue
- A Safety Issue on State Route 33 near the high school in Mendota
- A bike/pedestrian trail proposal to connect Westside cities

There has been no preliminary engineering or cost estimates for any of these additional projects. Caltrans agreed to explore the safety issues related to State Route 33/Manning Avenue and State Route 33 in Mendota and if appropriate initiate projects that may be eligible for state funding.

The current estimated cost of the four recommended projects is \$46 million, which does not fully program the Rural residual balance however these cost estimates could increase and the Transportation Authority presently has three major priority projects totaling \$218 million in various phases of project development and design and approaching construction in the next two years that could also experience cost increase. Those priority projects are Golden State Boulevard Corridor, the State Route/American Avenue Interchange, and State Route 41 Excelsior Expressway. In light of recent inflationary pressures, Staff recommends leaving a prudent reserve to cover unexpected cost increases until these projects are bid and substantially complete.

however, the meeting with the Rural Westside Mayors, they expressed a request to develop a list of additional priority project to be discussed in the future that could also be appropriate for discussions regarding the proposed extension of Measure C, however there was unanimous support for moving forward with the four recommended projects.

**Action:** Staff recommends the board adopt Resolution 2024-36 authorizing an amendment to the Measure C Regional Transportation Program Expenditure Plan and recommend the Transportation Authority add the following projects to the Rural Tier I list.

- Passing Lane on State Route 33 between Mendota and Firebaugh -\$16 million
- Passing Lane on State Route 180 between Kerman and Mendota – \$16 million
- Passing Lane on State Route 198 between Kings County Line and I5 – \$9 million

- Widen State Route 145 North of Whitesbridge connecting to State Route 180 – \$5 million
- Les Beshears (FCOG) gave an update on the Measure C Expenditure Plan.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) motioned, and Ms. Morales (Reedley) seconded to approve the item as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**B. Cooperative Agreement with Fresno County Transportation Authority for the 2026 Measure C Expenditure Plan (Robert Phipps) [ACTION]**

**Summary:** Fresno COG and the Fresno County Transportation Authority have a long history of working cooperatively in all things related to Measure C, whose enabling legislation provides that the regional transportation planning agency (Fresno COG) shall develop the expenditure plan for the ballot measure.

To that end, FCTA has requested that Fresno COG hire a project manager, a survey firm, public outreach firm and a facilitator to convene the executive committee overseeing the expenditure plan.

These contracts will be funded pursuant to a cooperative agreement for \$1.75 million between the FCTA and Fresno COG. FCTA will propose approving the same cooperative agreement in December; however, to avoid losing additional time, staff will begin issuing requests for proposals for these activities. Two actions are required:

**Action:** Recommend the Board authorize the executive director to sign a cooperative agreement for \$1.75 million with FCTA.

**Action:** Recommend the Board authorize and amendment to the 2023-24 Overall Work Program and budget to increase Work Element 210 – Measure C Planning by \$1.75 million.

- Robert Phipps (FCOG) reported on the plan.
- After an opportunity for public comment, Ms. Sumner (Fresno Cycling Club) motioned to move forward, and Mr. Khorsand (Fresno County) seconded to approve the motion as presented.

**All in Favor, no opposed.**

**Motion passed.**

**C. 2026 Regional Transportation Plan Call-for-Projects (Ofelia Abundez) [INFORMATION]**

**Summary:** The 2026 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) call-for-projects started on Oct. 1 and will end on Dec. 1. Fresno COG staff held a workshop on Sept. 25, to guide member agencies on submitting new projects and modifying existing, carried-over projects through FresnoTrak. Members also received instructions on the scoring process. Instructions and the workshop recording were emailed to all member agencies. Fresno COG staff will send friendly reminders about the deadline and encourage member agencies to reach out with any questions.

**Action:** Information and discussion. The Committee may provide additional direction at its discretion.

- Sean Nunez (FCOG) reported on the call for projects for the 2026 RTP plan.

**Information item only. No action needed.**

**III. OTHER ITEMS**

**A. Items from Staff**

- None.

**B. Items from Members**

- None.

#### IV. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

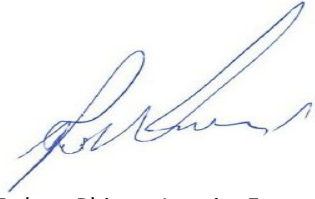
##### A. Public Presentations

- None.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Phipps", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert Phipps, Interim Executive Director

##### Public:

Terry Ogle – FCTA  
Gloria Hernandez  
Alexandra Chavez

##### Staff:

Denise Flores, Robert Phipps, Jennifer Rodriguez, Brenda Thomas, Janelle Del Campo, Les Beshears, Matthew Shimizu, Moses Stites, Harold Sobrado, Jeff Long, Kai Han, Pankaj Joshi, Sean Nunez.